

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending. Claims 1, 3 and 12 are amended herein. Support for the amendments is found at least at page 4, paragraph [0008]; page 15, paragraph [0028] and Fig. 5 of the specification.

Applicants' Response to the Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 3, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Murata (JP Publication 2001-186301) in view of Parson et al (USP 7,031,437).

In response thereto, applicants respectfully submit that the combination of references does not render the presently claimed invention obvious for at least the reason that the combination does not teach all the features of parent claims 1, 3 and 12, nor is there any reason for a skilled artisan to modify the combination so as to derive the currently claimed invention.

The combination of Murata and Parsons does not result in: (1) a device having a means for transmitting the configuration data directly to the prescribed apparatus specified only by the destination identification information, nor (2) a device having direct communication between a communication terminal device and a prescribed apparatus with a configuration screen having a configuration data entry field from a means for storing data other than the prescribed apparatus. Neither of these features is set forth in the references so as to render them obvious or inherently present to one of skill in the art.

First, the combination of references does not provide for a means for transmitting the configuration data directly to the prescribed apparatus specified only by the destination

identification information. The Office relies on Murata as teaching the “means for transmitting” feature of applicant’ invention. Specifically, page 4, section 5 of the Office Action states:

...and means for transmitting the configuration data directly to the prescribed apparatus specified by the destination identification information (paragraph 0005 discloses a client, which inherently has transmitting means, using a browser to change the device settings *which must have been specified with a destination identification information* in order to be sent from the client to the prescribed apparatus). (*emphasis added*)

As such the Office has interpreted Murata as teaching that a terminal device (client equipment) equipped with (a) a means for accepting a screen file, (b) means for accepting configuration data, (c) means for accepting information for specifying the prescribed apparatus as a destination identification information ((a)-(c) being the browser) is connected to prescribed apparatus (an MFP) through means for transmitting the configuration data directly to the designated prescribed apparatus (which is an intranet LAN).

However, as evidenced by the attached translation of paragraphs [0001] to [0008] of Murata, there is no teaching of means for transmitting the configuration data directly to the prescribed apparatus based upon only the specified destination identification information. As set forth in paragraph [0004]-[0005] “equipment setting information may be changed from a client machine arranged in the LAN by using a browser.” This disclosure, even in light of the further disclosures by Parsons, does not provide for communication between the client apparatus and an MFP based only on destination identification information imputed into a configuration data entry field. The disclosure of Murata Paragraph [0005] recites that the client machine and the MFP are pre-arranged within a LAN. As such, it is clear to one of skill in the art that the configuration of

Murata relies on previously entered destination information to identify the MFP by the client machine. This is contrary to the presently claimed invention.

For example, as set forth in Fig. 5 of the present specification, destination identification information is entered S18 directly into the communication terminal 100. This destination information specifies the equipment 200a transmitted to directly from the communication terminal 100 s20 of the configuration information. Hence, in the current invention there is no need for prior recognition of the equipment 200a by the communication terminal 100 or even the file server 20. Therefore, the configuration information for equipment can be updated from any terminal so long as the destination identification information is supplied. See also paragraphs [0028]-[0029].

Applicants respectfully submit that there is no disclosure in Murata which would provide a reason for a skilled artisan to find it obvious that destination identification information is only imputed into the browser. Rather, Murata teaches an established LAN between the MFP and the client machine. As such, Murata does not teach the feature of the claimed invention of means for transmitting configuration data directly to a prescribed apparatus specified only by the destination identification information. Further, since Murata is discussing a connection in an intranet via LAN, one of skill in the art readily assumes pre-established configuration between the MFP and the client machine. Hence, there is no reason for one of skill in the art to modify Murata so as to obtain the present invention. As noted below, even in light of Parsons, there is still no basis for such a modification.

Second, the Office continues to rely on Parsons as teaching “configuring an apparatus from other than the prescribed apparatus.” Page 3, section 7 of the current Office Action. Specifically, the Office asserts that based on this teaching in Parsons it would have been obvious to modify Murata as taught by Parsons “in order to conveniently configure devices with limited memory such as pagers and cell phones, with the use of a centralized server.” Page 4, section 9 of the current Office Action.

As noted in applicants’ prior response, Parsons does not teach that the cell phones, pagers or similar wireless devices (“prescribed apparatus”) are directly configured by the browser access for which it is relied upon by the Office. Rather, Parsons only teaches that the server which is in contact with the prescribed apparatus is configured by a browser access.

Parsons is directed to a method and system for providing previously transmitted messages to remote apparatus such as cell phones and pagers. See Abstract. Parsons teaches that the messages are first sent to a notification server 202. The notification server 202 has means for storing user information 204 related to the wireless devices. The Office Action cites to the disclosure of Parsons at col. 5, lines 57-65 related to the user information store 204. As discussed therein, the user information store 204 may be updated by user interface functionality with information related to the wireless devices for contact by the notification server 202. In other words, the wireless devices are not configured by the browser access, but the notification server 202 is configured as to which wireless devices to forward a message to when received by the notification server. See col. 5, line 46 to col. 6, line 24. Based on the above, Parsons does not teach or suggest that the wireless devices are directly configured from a user interface.

As described above, the current invention allows a user to obtain a configuration data entry field from a means other than a prescribed apparatus, enter configuration data and destination identification information to identify the prescribed apparatus, and then directly contact the prescribed apparatus based only on the destination identification information. Contrary, Parsons only teaches that storage of information for configuration of a notification server 202 is accessible from a user interface. As such, there is no teaching in Parsons which suggests that devices of limited memory such as pagers and cell phones may be directly configured without the interceding use of a centralized server.

As such, Parsons does not teach directly configuring an apparatus from other than the prescribed apparatus.

Wherefore, there is no reason whereby one of skill in the art would derive the presently claimed invention based upon the combination of Murata and Parsons. Specifically, the combination does not result in a device having direct communication between a communication terminal device and a prescribed apparatus with a configuration screen having a configuration data entry field from a means for storing data other than the prescribed apparatus, nor a means for transmitting the configuration data directly to the prescribed apparatus specified only by the destination identification information.

Claims 2 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murata (JP 2001-186301) and Parsons et al. (US 7,031,437) as applied to claims 1 and 3 and further in view of Bates et al. (US 6,963,901).

Claims 4 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murata (JP 2001-186301) and Parsons et al. (US 7,031,437) as applied to claims 1, 3 and 12 and further in view of Weghorst et al. (US 6,775,559 B1).

Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murata (JP 2001-186301) and Parsons et al. (US 7,031,437) as applied to claims 1 and 3 and further in view of Kley (US 6,947,977).

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murata (JP 2001-186301) and Parsons et al. (US 7,031,437) as applied to claim 3 and further in view of Harvey (US 7,054,924).

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murata (JP 2001-186301) and Parsons et al. (US 7,031,437) as applied to claims 1, 3 and 12 and further in view of Fields et al. (US 6,412,008 B1).

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murata (JP 2001-186301) and Parsons et al. (US 7,031,437) as applied to claim 3, in view of Bates et al. (US 6,963,901), as applied to claim 9, and further in view of Harrison (US 6,434,502).

Applicant respectfully submits that by addressing the rejection of the patent claims, as detailed above, the rejection of the dependent claims is likewise addressed by nature of the claims' dependencies.

Application No.: 10/656,11
Art Unit: 2143

Amendment
Attorney Docket No.: 031004

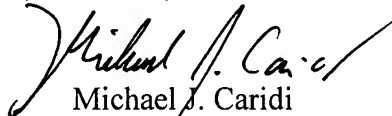
In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicant submits that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicant requests such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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MJC/ttw

Enclosure: Partial translation (JP 2001-186301)



JP,2001-186301

COMMUNICATION APPARATUS

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention] The present invention relates to a communication apparatus such as an MFP (network peripheral) that is configured by attaching to a facsimile machine an optional equipment having other functions such as a LAN communication function. More specifically, the present invention relates to a communication apparatus that includes a web server function and can externally change equipment setting information by using a browser.

[0002]

[Conventional Art] For example, a network I/F board and a network I/F card, which are a connection I/F for a network such as the LAN, are separately sold as an optional equipment for a facsimile machine, or can be attached to the facsimile machine in a manufacturing stage in accordance with a specification.

[0003] By attaching such optional equipment to the facsimile machine, another function (a communication function that is different from a facsimile communication function) that is different from original functions of the facsimile machine can be provided to the facsimile machine.

[0004] Accordingly, resources such as a scanner, a printer, and a modem of the facsimile machine can be used by another

communication apparatus arranged in the network. In other words, a network peripheral referred to as a Multi Functional Peripheral (MFP) including a network facsimile machine, a network printer, or a network scanner or the like can be used.

[0005] In addition to a function of connecting to the LAN, the above-described MFP may be provided with, as an optional equipment, a network I/F board having a web server function, and may be configured as a web server in an intranet via the LAN. In some of such MFPs including the web server function, equipment setting information thereof can be directly changed from an operation panel provided to the MFP, and the equipment setting information may be changed from a client machine arranged in the LAN by using a browser.

[0006] In such an MFP, in accordance with designation of a prescribed URL from the client machine, by transmitting an input screen of the equipment setting information in an HTML format that can display with the browser, the input screen is displayed on a screen of the client machine. After a user of the client machine inputs (or changes or the like) relevant items of the equipment setting information on the displayed input screen, the user transmits, and in response thereto, the MFP performs a changing process of the relevant equipment setting information based on the content of the input items.